

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the claims in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for supporting a trading of an odd lot that is less than a round lot stock number determined in every stock company, said method comprising:

receiving from a customer an odd lot selling order or an odd lot buying order for a particular stock company;

totaling a number of stocks of odd lot selling orders or odd lot buying orders, which are received before a predetermined time;

judging, at said predetermined time, whether or not a said totaled number of total-stocks of said odd lot selling orders or a said totaled number of total-stocks of said odd lot buying orders received at said receiving is less than a round lot stock number defined for said particular stock company and equal to or greater than a threshold value that is less than said defined round lot stock number and is determined by a predetermined rule; and

if it is judged at said judging that if the totaled number of total-stocks of said odd lot selling orders or the totaled number of total-stocks of said odd lot buying orders is judged to be less than said defined round lot stock number and equal to or greater than said threshold value, outputting a selling order of said defined round lot stock number defined for said particular stock company for said odd lot selling orders or a buying order of said defined round lot stock number defined for said particular stock company for said odd lot buying orders.

2. (Currently Amended) The method set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

determining said threshold value based on said predetermined rule in which so as to make a total amount of trading fees of said received from specific customers for specific odd lot buying orders of said particular stock company or said for specific odd lot selling orders of said particular stock company is equal to or higher than a risk amount for a differential stock number, wherein the stock number is a difference between said defined round lot stock number and said threshold value, wherein

said threshold value is a total stock number of said specific odd lot buying orders or a total stock number of specific odd lot selling orders.

3. (Original) The method set forth in claim 2, wherein said risk amount is determined by a limited price range or a price itself.

4. (Currently Amended) The method set forth in claim 1, ~~wherein said predetermined rule is a rule~~further comprising:

determining said threshold value based on a trading volume of stocks of said particular stock company during a predetermined period.

5. (Currently Amended) The method set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

judging whether or not said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders that are received at said receiving is over said round lot stock number of said particular stock company;

if it is judged ~~at said second judging that~~ said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders is over said round lot stock number, providing a minimum number of ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to each customer who makes said odd lot buying order or said odd lot selling order; and

providing a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided at said ~~first~~ providing from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second predetermined rule.

6. (Currently Amended) The method set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

judging whether or not said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders that are received at said receiving is over said round lot stock number of said particular stock company;

if it is judged ~~at said second judging that~~ said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders is over said round lot stock number, judging whether or not it is possible to provide a minimum number of ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to each customer who makes said odd lot buying order or said odd lot selling order;

if it is judged ~~at said third judging that~~ it is impossible to provide the minimum number of ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or selling orders, providing one stock to said each customer; and

providing a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided at said ~~first~~ providing from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second predetermined rule.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for supporting a trading of an odd lot that is less than a round lot stock number determined in every stock company, said method comprising:

totaling a number of stocks of odd lot selling orders or odd lot buying orders, which are received before a predetermined time;

judging whether or not ~~at~~ the totaled number of ~~total~~-stocks of odd lot buying orders or ~~at~~ the totaled number of ~~total~~-stocks of odd lot selling orders that are received from customers is over said round lot stock number of said particular stock company;

if it is judged ~~at said judging~~ that said totaled number of ~~said total~~-stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of ~~said total~~-stocks of said odd lot selling orders is over said round lot stock number, judging whether or not it is possible to provide a minimum number of ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to each customer who makes said odd lot buying order or said odd lot selling order;

if it is judged ~~at said second judging~~ that it is possible to provide a minimum number of ordered stocks, providing said minimum number of ~~said-ordered~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to ~~said~~ each customer who makes said odd lot buying order or said odd lot selling order; and

providing a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided at said ~~first~~-providing from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second predetermined rule.

8. (Currently Amended) The method set forth in claim 7, further comprising:

if it is judged ~~at said second judging~~ that it is impossible to provide the minimum number of ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or selling orders, providing one stock to said each customer; and

providing a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided ~~at said first~~-providing from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second predetermined rule.

9. (Currently Amended) A storage medium for storing a program for causing a computer to support a trading of an odd lot that is less than a round lot stock number determined in every stock company, said program comprising:

receiving from a customer an odd lot selling order or an odd lot buying order for a particular stock company;

totaling a number of stocks of odd lot selling orders or odd lot buying orders, which are received before a predetermined time;

judging, at said predetermined time, whether or not the totaled number of total stocks of said odd lot selling orders or the totaled number of total stocks of said odd lot buying orders received at said receiving is over a threshold value that is less than said round lot stock number defined for said particular stock company and equal to or greater than a threshold value that is less than the defined round lot stock number and is determined by a predetermined rule; and

if it is judged at said judging that if the totaled number of total stocks of said odd lot selling orders or the totaled number of total stocks of said odd lot buying orders is judged to be less than said defined round lot stock number and equal to or greater than said threshold value, outputting a selling order of said defined round lot stock number defined for said particular stock company for said odd lot selling orders or a buying order of said defined round lot stock number defined for said particular stock company for said odd lot buying orders.

10. (Currently Amended) The storage medium set forth in claim 9, the program further comprising:

determining the threshold value based on the predetermined rule in which so as to make a total amount of trading fees of said received from specific customers for specific odd lot buying orders of said particular stock company or said for specific odd lot selling orders of said particular stock company is equal to or higher than a risk amount for a differential stock number which is a difference between said defined round lot stock number and said threshold value, wherein

said threshold value is a total stock number of said specific odd lot buying orders or a total stock number of specific odd lot selling orders.

11. (Original) The storage medium set forth in claim 10, wherein said risk amount is determined by a limited price range or a price itself.

12. (Currently Amended) The storage medium set forth in claim 9, wherein said predetermined rule is a rule the program further comprising:

determining said threshold value based on a trading volume of stocks of said particular stock company during a predetermined period.

13. (Currently Amended) The storage medium set forth in claim 9, said program further

comprising:

judging whether or not said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders that are received at said receiving is over said round lot stock number of said particular stock company;

if it is judged ~~at said second judging that~~ said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders is over said round lot stock number, providing a minimum number of ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to each customer who makes said odd lot buying order or said odd lot selling order; and

providing a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided at said ~~first~~ providing from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second predetermined rule.

14. (Currently Amended) The storage medium set forth in claim 9, said program further comprising:

judging whether or not said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders that are received at said receiving is over said round lot stock number of said particular stock company;

if it is judged ~~at said second judging that~~ said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders is over said round lot stock number, judging whether or not it is possible to provide a minimum number of ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to each customer who makes said odd lot buying order or said odd lot selling order;

if it is judged ~~at said third judging that~~ it is impossible to provide a minimum number of ordered stocks, providing one stock to said each customer; and

providing a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided at said ~~first~~ providing from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second predetermined rule.

15. (Currently Amended) A storage medium for storing a program for causing a computer to support a trading of an odd lot that is less than a round lot stock number determined in every stock company, said program comprising:

totaling a number of stocks of odd lot selling orders or odd lot buying orders, which are received before a predetermined time;

judging, ~~at a predetermined time,~~ whether or not ~~at the totaled~~ number of ~~total~~ stocks of odd lot buying orders or ~~at the totaled~~ number of ~~total~~ stocks of odd lot selling orders that are received from customers is less than a round lot stock number defined for said particular stock company and equal to or greater than ~~ever a threshold value that is less than~~ said the defined round lot stock number of said particular stock company; ~~wherein~~

~~if it is judged at said judging that said totaled~~ number of said ~~total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said number of said ~~total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders is ~~over said round lot stock number~~ is equal to or greater than the threshold value, judging whether or not it is possible to provide a minimum number of ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to each customer who makes said odd lot buying order or said odd lot selling order; ~~and if so judged, if it is judged at said second judging that it is possible to provide, providing said minimum number of said ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to said each customer who makes said odd lot buying order or said odd lot selling order; and providing a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided at said first providing from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second predetermined rule.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The storage medium set forth in claim 15, ~~said program further comprising; wherein~~

~~if it is judged at said second judging that it is impossible to provide~~ a minimum number of ordered stocks, providing one stock to said each customer; and

providing a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided ~~at said first providing from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second~~ the predetermined rule.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for supporting a trading of an odd lot that is less than a round lot stock number determined in every stock company, comprising:

a receiving unit for receiving that receives from a customer an odd lot selling order or an odd lot buying order for a particular stock company;

a totaling unit that totals a number of stocks of odd lot selling orders or odd lot buying orders, which are received before a predetermined time;

a judging unit that judges, at the predetermined time, for judging whether or not ~~at the totaled~~ number of ~~total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders or ~~at the totaled~~ number of ~~total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders ~~received by said unit for receiving is~~ less than a round lot stock

number defined for said particular stock company and equal to or greater than~~ever~~ a threshold value that is less than said defined round lot stock number ~~and is determined by a predetermined rule~~; and

an output unit that outputs~~for outputting~~ a selling order of said defined round lot stock number ~~defined for said particular stock company for said odd lot selling orders or a buying order of said round lot stock number defined for said particular stock company for said odd lot buying orders~~ if it is judged by said unit for judging unit that the totaled number of ~~total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders or the totaled number of ~~total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders is less ~~than said defined round lot stock number and equal to or greater than~~ever said threshold value.

18. (Currently Amended) The system set forth in claim 17, wherein
said threshold value is ~~determined based on said predetermined rule in which~~ so as to make a total amount of trading fees~~received from specific customers for specific odd lot buying orders of said particular stock company or said for specific odd lot selling orders of said particular stock company~~ is equal to or higher than a risk amount for a differential stock number ~~which is a difference between said defined round lot stock number and said threshold value, and~~
said threshold value is a total stock number of said specific odd lot buying orders or a total stock number of specific odd lot selling orders.

19. (Original) The system set forth in claim 18, wherein said risk amount is determined by a limited price range or a price itself.

20. (Currently Amended) The system set forth in claim 17, ~~wherein said predetermined rule is a rule~~ further comprising:

a determining unit that determines said threshold value based on a trading volume of stocks of said particular stock company during a predetermined period.

21. (Currently Amended) The system set forth in claim 18, further comprising:
a second judging unit ~~for judging~~ that judges whether or not said totaled number of said ~~total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders that are received by said ~~means for receiving~~ unit is over said round lot stock number of said particular stock company;

a first providing unit ~~for providing~~ that provides a minimum number of ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to each customer who makes said odd

lot buying order or said odd lot selling order if it is judged by said second judging unit that said totaled number of ~~said total~~-stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of said ~~total~~-stocks of said odd lot selling orders is over said round lot stock number; and

a second providing unit ~~for providing~~that provides a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided by said first providing unit from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second predetermined rule.

22. (Currently Amended) The system set forth in claim 17, further comprising:

a second judging unit ~~for judging~~that judges whether or not said totaled number of said ~~total~~-stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of said ~~total~~-stocks of said odd lot selling orders that are received by said ~~unit for receiving~~ unit is over said round lot stock number of said particular stock company;

a third judging unit for judging whether or not it is possible to provide a minimum number of ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to each customer who makes said odd lot buying order or said odd lot selling order if it is judged by said second judging unit that said totaled number of said ~~total~~-stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of said ~~total~~-stocks of said odd lot selling orders is over said round lot stock number;

a first providing unit for providing one stock to said each customer if it is judged at said third judging unit that it is impossible to provide; and

a second providing unit for providing a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided by said first providing unit from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second predetermined rule.

23. (Currently Amended) A system for supporting a trading of an odd lot that is less than a round lot stock number determined in every stock company, comprising:

a totaling unit that totals a number of stocks of odd lot selling orders or odd lot buying orders, which are received before a predetermined time;

a first judging unit ~~for judging~~that judges at the predetermined time whether or not ~~at the~~ totaled number of ~~total~~-stocks of odd lot buying orders or ~~at the~~ totaled number of total stocks of odd lot selling orders ~~that are received from customers is less than a round lot stock number defined for said particular stock company and equal to or greater than~~ever said round lot stock

~~number of said particular stock company~~ a threshold value that is less than said defined round lot stock number;

a second judging unit for judging whether or not it is possible to provide a minimum number of ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to each customer who makes said odd lot buying order or said odd lot selling order if it is judged by said first judging unit that said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said totaled number of ~~said total~~ stocks of said odd lot selling orders is over said round lot stock number;

a first providing unit for providing said minimum number of said ordered stocks of said odd lot buying orders or said odd lot selling orders to said each customer who makes said odd lot buying order or said odd lot selling order if it is judged by said second judging unit that it is possible to provide a minimum number of ordered stocks; and

a second providing unit for providing a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided at said first providing from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second predetermined rule.

24. (Currently Amended) The system set forth in claim 23, further comprising:

a third providing unit for providing one stock to said each customer if it is judged by said second judging means that it is impossible to provide the minimum number of ordered stocks; and

a fourth providing unit for providing a number of remainder stocks that is calculated by subtracting a number of all stocks provided at said first providing from said round lot stock number to a customer who has a remainder of the order, according to a second predetermined rule.